

Torii



Teller

Marine Corps Air Station
Iwakuni, Japan

Vol. 45 No. 12
March 31, 2000

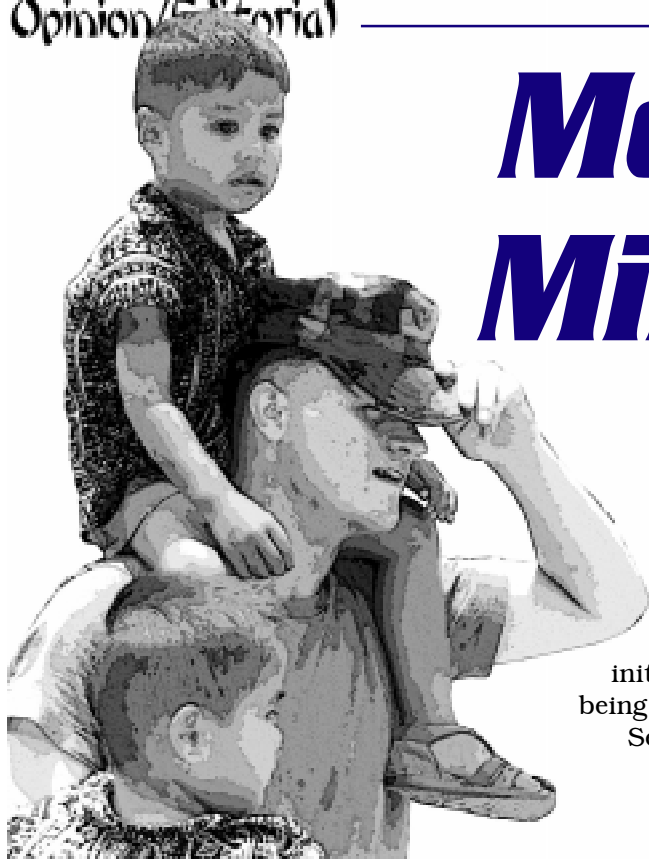


Cover:

Patrolling Course pg 6

Inside:

Retention standdown pg 4



Month of the Military Child

Since 1986 the Secretary of Defense has designated each April as "The Month of the Military Child." Our children are an inspiration and source of pride to us all. This is an opportunity to reflect and recognize the contributions and personal sacrifices our children make as Marine Corps family members.

Commands are encouraged to plan appropriate activities during the Month of the Military Child in our youth centers and child development centers, and to continue to develop initiatives that will focus attention on issues concerning the well being of our military children.

Semper Fidelis,

/s/ Gen. J.L. Jones
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Safe motorcycling in Japan

by **Jerry Hollenback**
Safety and Occupational Health Specialist

Cherry blossom time is one of the most beautiful seasons in Japan, and mild spring afternoons can make for some of the best motorcycle riding. However, according to statistics, spring is also the worst time to be riding a motorcycle. Motorcyclists are 26 times more likely to be involved in a fatality than

other motor vehicle drivers. Most involved in accidents have less than five months riding experience and are either self-taught or have learned from family or friends.

Since a motorcycle affords very little protection compared to that provided by a car, each time that you ride your motorcycle you assume a high degree of risk. This spring, before you take the cover off your bike, take a moment to reflect on how you can reduce the risk without

reducing the fun.

☒ Inspect your bike each time before you ride.

☒ Never combine motorcycle riding with alcohol or fatigue.

☒ Ride with the prescribed protective gear including boots, long pants, jacket, approved helmet, full finger gloves and reflective vest.

Status of Forces Agreement personnel are required to take a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Riders Course to operate a motorcycle aboard the air station. For more information call Station Safety at 253-5487.



Our Cover

Corporal Michael Felton, MWSS-171 embark NCO, grips his M-240G machine gun as he watches carefully for "enemy" movement. See Page 6 for more on patrolling (photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw)

Torii Teller

Commanding Officer	Col. Richard C. Dunn
Public Affairs Officer	Maj. Tim Keefe
Public Affairs Chief	Staff Sgt. Lawrence Torres
Press Chief	Staff Sgt. John Olmstead
Information/Editorial Specialist	Sachiko Misaka
Senior Combat Correspondent	Sgt. Raymie Cruz
Combat Correspondent	Cpl. Michael Wiener
Combat Correspondent	Lance Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Combat Correspondent	Lance Cpl. Richard Barker
Combat Correspondent	Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw

"This weekly magazine is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof."

PAO, PSC 561, Box 1861, FPO AP 96310-0029
253-5551 or 253-5554 (fax)

News Briefs

Fire Alarm Test

Crossroads Mall patrons are advised that the fire alarm will be tested Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. As this is just a test; there is no need to evacuate. Please follow the direction of fire officials throughout the test period.

Road Opens

The E. Circle Road in front of the Provost Marshal's Office and Club Iwakuni opened Tuesday. The Law Center's parking lot opened Wednesday.

School Closure

Matthew C. Perry schools are scheduled to be closed April 7 for a teacher's workday. This will start spring break and end the third quarter. Teachers will spend their workday preparing the students' third quarter report cards.

Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time will begin Sunday at 2 a.m. in the United States.

For those calling home, the time difference between here and the United States will be an hour less, because there's no such system in Japan.

Embassy Visit

The immigrant visa chief of the American Embassy will provide a brief to air station residents April 7. The brief will consist of immigrant visa, passport, naturalization and other issues. If you would like to attend this brief, sign up with the Station Judge Advocate or call Junko Sakamoto at 253-5594 for more information.

Switch Office 'off the hook'

by Cpl. Michael Wiener
Torii Teller Staff

The Station Telephone Division here has recently been awarded the title of the best "multi-function switch" in the Pacific by the Defense Information Systems Agency.

The award is presented annually to the best office in this region to include Korea, Okinawa and Hawaii. The office stood inspections and performance evaluations before being selected as the best.

"When the inspection team came, their report was 'no findings,' which is the best report an office can receive," said Chief Warrant Officer-3 Daniel Norvell, telephone division officer. "We provide service to Iwakuni and dial tone to camps all over mainland Japan and Okinawa."

Although the award is specifically for the multi-function switch, it encompasses the entire telephone office and even includes the Information Systems Management Office.

The high level of excellence was

apparent to the inspection team as soon as they walked in the door.

"As soon as the inspector came in, he said 'I can tell this office is 100 percent better than any I've been to yet just by looking at it,'" said Staff Sgt. Elliott Lofton, digital switch technician.

What makes the award even more significant is the lack of manpower behind all the work. One Marine and three civilian employees keep the multi-function switch operating virtually error-free.

"What I can take pride in is that we're doing the same job as other offices around the Pacific, but with far less people," said Joe Cook, switch technician. "It shows that not only are we doing our job right, but we're doing our job well."

"Whether you call it esprit de Corps, comraderie or teamwork, the people in this office work together and get the job done," Norvell said. "It reflects on what my people have done to support the base. It's all about teamwork."

Iwakuni Marines fare well in DIV/PA awards

by Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw
Torii Teller Staff

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni's American Forces Network and Public Affairs Office staff received awards in the Division of Public Affairs and Military Photographer of the Year competitions recently.

American Forces Network's support of the Liberty Campaign also won the Best Command Information Program of the Year award.

Marines and civilian personnel submitted works in various categories for the Marine Corps-wide competition.

The AFN local newscast, Inside

Iwakuni, was rated best newscast for its category.

Inside Iwakuni was also rated the best local television newscast for the Department of Defense last year.

"We won last year, and we won this year," said Cpl. Matthew Kell, AFN broadcast journalist. "That just tells me we're headed in the right direction."

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni's Internet site, created and maintained by the Public Affairs Office, won best Internet site in the Marine Corps.

Staff Sgt. Lawrence Torres, webmaster, began work on the web

Retention stand-down focuses on keeping Marines in Corps

by Staff Sgt. Michelle Smith
Community Relations Chief

In an effort to boost this year's retention efforts, the Commandant of the Marine Corps has directed a Corps-wide retention stand-down. The two-day event allowed Marines to focus on their reenlistment plans.

"The Marine Corps must remain strong as we confront the challenges of the 21st century. To do this, we must roll-up our sleeves and personally talk to each Marine who has an end of active service date during this fiscal year," said the Commandant of the Marine Corps in a recent message.

The goal of the stand-down is two-fold. The initial goal is to reach the First Term Alignment Plan goal of more than 5,500 Marines. The second is to maintain, if not increase, the number of career Marines who choose to stay in the Corps.

"We should encourage our first term Marines to remain in the Corps with us," the Commandant said.

To adhere to the Commandant's orders, various commands on station held briefs and commanding officer interviews.

"The personnel at MALS-12 held a unit field meet on Wednesday, and Thursday the squadron's officers and staff noncommissioned officers spoke to the Marines on the benefits of a career in the Corps," said Staff Sgt. Jamal Cheeks, MALS-12 career planner.

The commanding officer spoke to Marines with an EAS in 2000 who had not yet re-enlisted.

Other station units held similar briefings.

The H&HS commanding officer also held interviews for Marines who have an EAS this year and offered the

following for Marines who still may be unsure:

"The Marine Corps has intangibles that cannot be found anywhere else — the camaraderie and special bond that exists between Marines," said Lt. Col. William Grace, H&HS commanding officer.

"Get away from all distractions and take a deep look at your life and your future goals," he said. "Is the pride and honor still deeply-rooted and located right behind the eagle, globe and anchor on your cammie breast pocket?"

"Don't get caught up in perceived needs of the moment and sacrifice the best opportunity you may ever have to make a

"The Marine Corps has intangibles that cannot be found anywhere else — the camaraderie and special bond that exists between Marines."

Lt. Col. William Grace

lasting positive contribution in the lives of others," said Grace.

Additionally, in-briefs were held for junior and career Marines. Excerpts from "Lightening from the Sea" and "Wind and Lion" were shown to the Marines.

The excerpts are motivational in nature and reflect on Corps values and the very ethos of being a Marine.

The retention stand down has its successes.

"I had no plans to re-enlist," said Cpl. Ernesto Alvarez, MALS-12 aviation supply clerk. "But after speaking with our career planner and my staff NCO, I got the motivation to re-enlist. They reminded me why I joined — for the leadership and the experience."

This stand-down afford Marines a time to look at who we are as an institution and who we are as individuals.

"There are reasons why every Marine joined the Marine Corps. This whole process is to help every Marine remember why he joined, and remembering those reasons, why he should stay," said Master Sgt. Andre Robinson, H&HS career planner.

Council to hold KidsFest

by Sylvia Hollenback
Acting Interagency Council Coordinator

KidsFest 2000 will be held April 8 in the MAC Dome. Events and activities are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All events and activities

are free and open to all residents aboard the air station. Games and contests will be geared towards children under 5.

Contests offered will be "Creep and Crawl" for all non-walkers, Little Tot Trot for ages 12-to 36-months, Chubbiest Cheeks, Parent-Child

Look-Alike and Hula-Hoop.

Other activities will include story telling by the Station Library, clowns, fingerprinting by PMO, kid tracing and the making of the Iwakuni Kids Quilt.

The Interagency Council Coordinator and MCCS sponsored event will provide various family-centered attractions such as drawings for gift certificates and the final Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society drawing.

Exercise Arctic Dagger under way in Alaska

by Gunnery Sgt. Charles Portman —
PWST, Brook Park

FORT RICHARDSON, Alaska —

Upon landing here March 19 Marine reservists of 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment kicked off Exercise Arctic Dagger, the unit's primary two week annual training period.

The exercise is a test of the unit's ability to operate in extreme cold weather conditions. This is the first time 3rd Battalion has conducted cold weather training in Alaska, according to the unit's Inspector-Instructor, Lt. Col. David Undeland.

Marines of 3rd Battalion have been designated as a Marine Forces Reserve cold weather unit for many years. In addition to training at bases in the continental United States, the unit has traveled to Canada, Chile and Norway in the past to conduct cold weather training.

When it arrived at Fort Richardson, the unit initiated a training schedule that will allow its



photo by Gunnery Sgt. Charles Portman

Team Leader Lance Cpl. Brad Little (right) and gunner Lance Cpl. Matt Eddy prepare to do ahkio machine gun drills. Little and Eddy are members of Lima Co., 3/25, based in Columbus, Ohio.

members to hone their mobility skills in the snow and fire their weapons in the extreme cold. Some elements of the battalion will practice surviving outdoors in freezing temperatures for days at a time.

"There are a lot of moving parts, here," said Lt. Col. Richard Fitzwater, battalion commanding officer. "Wet and cold is the worst

see **ALASKA** Page 10



Corporal Laurus Dvareckas, MWSS-171 motor transportation operations(left) and Cpl. Michael Bird chow down on their MREs as they prepare the patrol order.

Marines scour hills of Kawakami

by Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw
Torii Teller Staff

The patrol blended into vegetation. Rain began to fall, causing the ground to become wet and slippery. With only the sound of rain falling on the ground and an occasional snapping twig, the patrol was bringing the hunt to an end.

The first MWSS-171 Patrol Leader's Course concluded last week when eight student Marines, two instructors and a corpsman patrolled the hills of Kawakami.

The course, broken up into two one-week portions, focuses on preparing noncommissioned officers for combat.

Students attended classes during the first week. The first few classes refreshed Marines in skills not practiced everyday such as gear silencing and camouflage and concealment.

Then the lessons became more advanced with instruction on the operations of the PRC-119 radio, M-240G machine gun, night vision goggles, M-203 grenade launcher, writing and briefing a patrol order, the duties and responsibilities of a patrol leader, land navigation and techniques of patrolling.

"This is the stuff we need to know. Now is the time to learn it," said Cpl. Michael

Felton, student. "We could get called into combat tomorrow, and then it's too late to go through a course like this."

Marines put their knowledge to the test beginning Monday afternoon of the second week, when they began 24-hour patrolling operations, getting only about three hours of sleep per night. The Marines also changed positions, so everyone got a chance to be the patrol leader. They were expected to properly plan a patrol, issue a warning order and follow the six troop leading steps.

"My favorite part of the course was being put in charge of the patrol," said Felton. "It boosted my confidence in my leadership."

"It's important that we take what we've learned here back to our shops," said Cpl. Laurus Dvareckas, student. "As NCOs, it's our job to teach our younger Marines, even if it's not to the extent of a two-week course."

"The next time these Marines are in a situation and someone tasks them with a patrol, they'll know what to do," said Staff Sgt. B.T. Reilly, Patrol Leader's Course instructor. "And they'll be able to depend on each other."

When the course ended, the Marines walked away with training critical to combat readiness and a developed sense of teamwork.



Members of the first Patrol Leader's Course pose for a group photo. The course provides training critical to combat readiness and helped foster a sense of teamwork.



Corporal Jose Mendiaz, MWSS-171 motor transportation operations, scans the area during the field exercise. This is part of the Patrol Leader's Course.



1 Leader's Class pose for a photo. The exercise provided the Marines with physical readiness and also teamwork.



Marines from the MWSS-171 motor transport platoon pose in the area for the "downed" exercise portion of the Patrol.



photos by Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw

Sergeant Jerald Miller, MWSS-171 combat engineer, rests after a grueling patrol. The patrol was 50 on, 50 off.

Club teaches speaking skills

by Lance Cpl. Richard Barker
Torii Teller Staff

When speaking in public many people tend to get a nervous stomach. However, there is an organization here that can help tame those butterflies.

Toastmasters International is a public speaking club with three main goals: enable people to speak in public, develop leadership skills and teach effective listening.

Toastmasters gain public speaking skills by giving speeches during Toastmaster meetings.

"The first speech is known as the icebreaker," said Steffany Beasley, Competent Toastmaster. "This speech isn't as focused on speech itself, but rather the fact that the speech must be delivered in front of a group of people."

The first 10 speeches vary to cover

important elements in a speech. The second speech is a serious speech while the third is focused on vocal variety.

However, there is more involved in Toastmasters than giving speeches. Leadership is instilled in Toastmasters through positions held at meetings.

"Every meeting needs a leader, timer, 'um' counter, table topics master, mentor and general evaluator along with other positions," Beasley said.

"It's one thing to get up and give a speech, but not everyone knows how well they have done," she said. "The general evaluator evaluates the meeting, the people and the speeches."

"The evaluator grades the speaker's delivery, not content, and informs the speaker of the good and bad points of their speech," said Beasley. "The evaluation is the most important part of Toastmasters."

There are different levels a Toastmaster can reach. After 10 initial speeches a Toastmaster earns the title Competent Toastmaster. After 15 additional speeches and an officer position, the Competent Toastmaster becomes an Advanced Toastmaster.

From there it is possible, but difficult, to become a Distinguished Toastmaster. It

requires community speeches, holding a division level officer position, recruiting new members and starting a new club or rescuing one in trouble.

According to Beasley, Toastmasters have greatly influenced her life personally and professionally.

"My biggest fear when I was a teenager was speaking. Now that I have been in Toastmasters you can't shut me up," she said. "I have spoken in front of a convention of 400 people. I now have the confidence to do something I have never done before."

For others the Toastmasters have helped them build confidence.

"I used to be a very typical Japanese person," said Competent Toastmaster Takami Takeuchi, president of Iwakuni Toastmaster's. "I was shy and timid, and I had difficulty expressing my feelings in public. Toastmasters gave me a lot of confidence; now I can express how I feel."

Takeuchi also said that she is comfortable with herself now that she has learned that it is all right to have a different opinion.

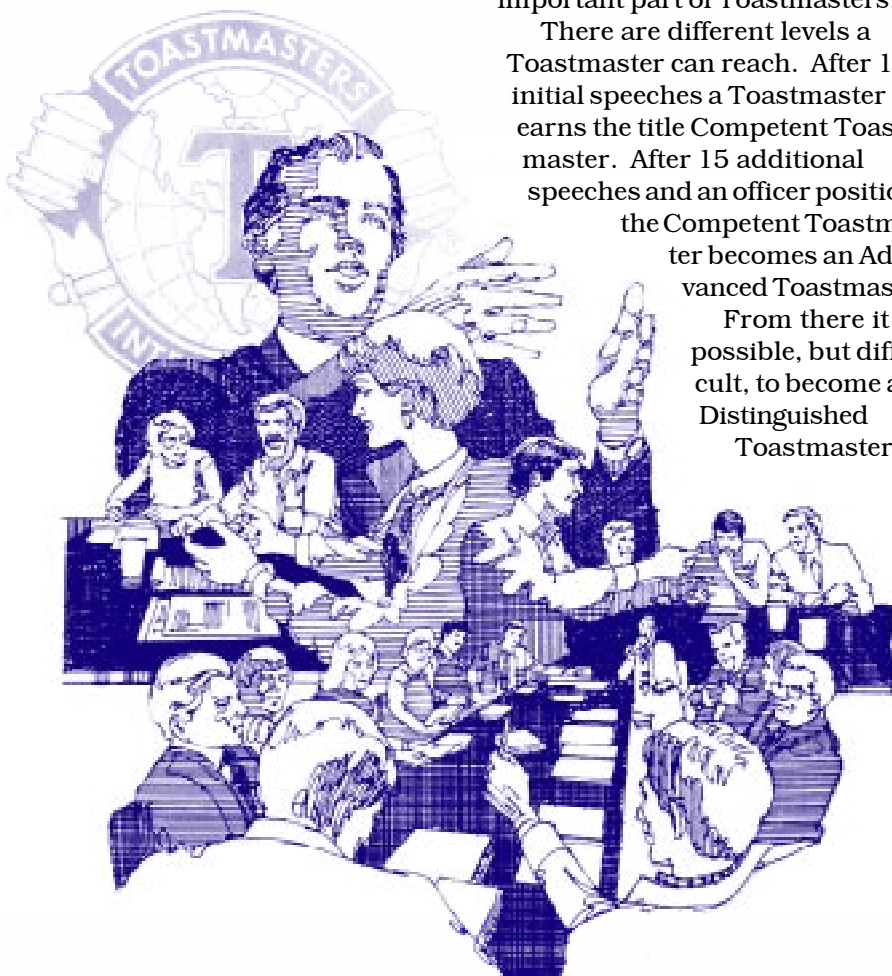
All Toastmaster clubs around the world conduct their meetings and speeches in English. "It's quite a challenge for non-native English speakers, but they do very well," said Beasley. "I'm the only American."

Membership is open to anybody 18 or older. There is a small membership fee which is paid yearly.

Currently, Toastmasters meet on the second floor of Club Iwakuni twice a month: on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. and third Friday from noon to 1 p.m.

"If you want to improve your speaking skills, Toastmasters is the place to be," said Beasley. "Toastmasters is a self-improvement program, it does not get rid of the butterflies, but it teaches them to fly in formation."

Anyone interested in becoming a Toastmaster can call Beasley at 99-31-8418.



Summer opportunities for youth abound on station

by Cpl. Michael Wiener
Torii Teller Staff

When the school bell sounds at the end of the school year, students may wonder what will fill their summer days.

Marine Corps Community Services and Red Cross may have the answer to what students are looking for.

Marine Corps Community Services has a limited number of positions for students seeking employment, according to Sue Campell, MCCS personnel officer. Job listings vary from sales clerk to lifeguard and will be posted April 28 at the MCCS personnel office.

"We have 33 positions available, and not everyone who applies is going to get hired, simply because we don't have enough jobs open," Campell said.

In order to get a feel of what getting a job in the "real world" is like, students will fill out an application like any other person seeking employment, and they may or may not have to go through a job interview, depending on the manager, said Campell.

One of the "real world" experiences students may go through is rejection.

Students shouldn't be discouraged, though. The Red Cross also has jobs available, and though they are volunteer positions, students will still receive valuable job experience. The post office, pool, hospital and other facilities are available for job opportunities through the Red Cross.

"Students will be able to volunteer at pretty much any place in need of volunteers," said Beverly Peden, Red Cross secretary. "We're trying to give them something to do — as well as good job experience."

Though most positions are only available during the summer, both MCCS and Red Cross can keep students on throughout the school year.

"It's up to the manager's discretion," Campell said. "But if a student doesn't work out during the summer or school year, we can always let them go. It's one more 'real world' experience."

Whether it's extra cash in the pocket, or "real world" experience, summer job opportunities can be found for students looking



to occupy their summer vacation.

"I'm not really sure where I want to work yet," said Candice Carbon, an 11th-grade student at M.C. Perry High School, "but I do plan on working this summer." For more information contact the MCCS personnel office at 243-3030 or the Red Cross at 253-4525.



photo by Lance Cpl. Richard Barker

'Who threw dirt on my car!'

Dust from the Gobi Desert, located in north central Asia, rained on Iwakuni last week after a fast moving frontal system pushed the dirt up into the atmosphere and carried it to Japan.

The occurrence is not a common one, according to Gunnery Sgt. Clifford Nix, station weather forecaster, but does happen enough for the Japanese to give it a name — "Yellow Sun."

ALASKA from Page 5

weather you can have. We've got to watch out for our Marines during this exercise," Fitzwater told the battalion staff.

Third Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, is a reserve infantry battalion headquartered in Cleveland. Subordinate units are located in Akron and Columbus, Ohio; Buffalo, N.Y. and Moundsville, W.Va.

Units attached to 3/25 for the exercise include members of the Dayton military police unit and a team of combat engineers from the reserve training center, Cross Lanes, W.Va. Instructors from the Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., and the Army NWTC are also sup-

porting the exercise.

Third Battalion has a long history, which includes storming the beaches at Iwo Jima Feb. 19, 1945. In August 1950, members of the unit mobilized from their downtown Cleveland headquarters to participate in the Korean Conflict, one of the coldest operations in Marine Corps history. The unit was again activated for Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

Undeland says this kind of training is very challenging, but necessary. "We have to be ready to go at a moment's notice," he said. "We could receive a call to go fight somewhere in the arctic just as easily as we were called to support operations in the desert back in 1991."

News



photo by Sgt. Raymie Cruz

Seabees, Civil Engineers Celebrate Birthday

To commemorate the U.S. Navy Seabee's 58-year and Civil Engineer Corps' 133-year anniversaries, the guest of honor was joined by the MCAS Iwakuni Commanding Officer and the oldest and youngest Seabee on station to cut the ceremonial cake at the Birthday Ball Friday night.

In order from left to right: Col. Richard C. Dunn, air station commanding officer; Chief Equipment Operator Thomas E. Dougherty, oldest Seabee; Rear Adm. Charles R. Kubic, guest of honor; and Construction Apprentice Dave Garner, youngest Seabee.

Sports Briefs

Pool Closure

The previously announced pool closures on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons have been suspended. The indoor pool will maintain normal hours. For more information call 253-5520.

Kintai Marathon

Registration is open through Monday for the 34th Annual Kintai Marathon. Call 253-5654 for entry details.

Uniform Turn-in

Turn in Youth Basketball uniforms to the Youth Center by Saturday. For more information call 253-5729.

Youth Baseball Opens

Opening ceremonies for Youth Baseball are scheduled for April 1, 9 a.m., on the Monzen Field. For more information call 253-5729.

Red Cross Benefit Golf

Torii Pines accepts registration until Thursday for the Red Cross Benefit Golf Tournament, to be held April 9, 9 a.m. Station employees, retirees and guests

may participate. There is a fee. For more information call 253-3402.

Torii Pines Closure

Torii Pines Golf Course closes for herbicide spraying Monday-Tuesday. Alternate days are April 10 and 11. For more information call 253-3402.

Tuesday Tune-up

The next Tuesday Tune-up, a mini health fair, takes place Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Crossroads Mall. For more information call 253-6359.

Spring Trophy Bowling

Register by Wednesday for the Southside Lanes' Spring Trophy League. Team captains meet April 7 at 10 a.m., and bowling begins April 11. For more information call 253-4657.

Buoyancy Class

Certified divers may participate in a peak performance buoyancy class at the indoor pool Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. There is a fee. Call 253-6058 and leave a message for more information.

News

AWARD from Page 3

page in February 1999.

"I had help from Hideki Morikawa and several other people," said Torres. "To me it was a gift from God, because I couldn't do it myself."

Staff Sergeant Timothy LeMaster, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Training, Audio and Visual Support Center here, was awarded the DoD title of Military Photographer of the Year, in the news category.

"It was a picture of several Marines and a Sailor embracing," said LeMaster. "It was a very simple photo, but it was a very poignant moment."

Individual winners from AFN are: Cpl. Amos Kelso, first place for television spot production; Sgt. Nikki Ables, honorable mention in spot

production; Lance Cpl. Richard Barker and Lance Cpl. Matthew Shaw, first place for group television spot production.

Winners also included Cpl. Tom Archer, honorable mention for television spot production; Lance Cpl. Jeremy Rubenstein, honorable mention for television news report; and Cpl. Matthew Kell, honorable mention for Broadcast Journalist of the Year.

Other winners from the Public Affairs Office are Staff Sgt. Michelle Smith, who received an honorable mention for series writing, and Sachiko Misaka received a special achievement award for designing the layout of the *Torii Teller*.

All first place awards for the Marine Corps Division of Public Affairs will compete in the DoD-wide Thomas Jefferson Awards in April.

SPORT SCORES

Softball, March 27

Hit Squad beat **Chain Gang**, 11-7

171 Eng beat **MALS-12**, 1-0 (forfeiture)

Dragons beat **Partners in Crime**, 18-10

MAG-12 beat **Sar Phrogs**, 16-5

Dragons beat **SNAFUO**, 10-0
MAG-12 beat **Vikings**, 21-4

Hit Squad beat **Lancers**, 25-5
MALS-12 beat **SNAFU**, 20-7

Basketball, March 23

Navy beat **OGs**, 54-49

Crash Crew beat **MWSS-171**, 59-50

JMSDF soaks station

by Cpl. Michael Wiener
Torii Teller Staff

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force swimmers left all other station unit teams in their wake during morning races at the Main Gym Friday.

The tsunami started with the first race of the day, as JMSDF's Toshiki Tajima finished the 100-meter freestyle in 1 minute and 4 seconds, more than three seconds before second-place finisher Wilber Lee.

The domination continued through the 100-meter freestyle (30 years and older), 100-meter backstroke, 100-meter breast stroke and 200-meter kick board relay.

It wasn't until the eighth race of the morning that a JMSDF swimmer didn't touch the wall first. Heath McCleary, H&HS, outswam everyone in the 200-meter individual medley, finishing in 2:42, seven seconds in front of second place.

"I swam against JMSDF last year, so I knew they had a lot of strong swimmers," said McCleary. "But it felt great to win. It brought back a lot of old high school memories."

As quickly as McCleary had won the medley, JMSDF regained control and took two of the next three races.

However, the H&HS team schooled together during the lunch break and ruled the afternoon races, which included not-so-traditional events such as the aqua jogger and ball relays and 50-meter swim qualification.

With only the kayak race left, MWSS-171 was still without a first-place finish. Five minutes and 30 seconds later, however, the gold medal was theirs.

"There was a lot of tough competition here today," said Uilton Dossantos, a former high school varsity swimmer now with MWSS-171. "Overall, today was great. We're already talking about the next meet."

Despite the competitive nature of Marines, Sailors and JMSDF competitors, medals, trophies and bragging rights were not the focus of the meet.

"The entire purpose behind the meet is friendship and camaraderie between two forces. This is a 'shinzen' (friendship) meet," said Sean Kim Han, aquatics director and one of the organizers. "Last November, the JMSDF invited us to their swim meet, so we thought it would be a good idea to invite them to ours."

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force was happy to walk away with a fist-full of medals, and also with the opportunity to get together with their American counterparts.

"This was a great day because we don't have many chances to interact with the Marines," said Hiroshi Nishimoto, JMSDF kayak competitor. "I'm looking forward to more of these activities."

TOP: Heath McCleary, H&HS swimmer, comes up for air on his leg of the 200-meter medley relay. The team finished third.

LEFT: Takahiro Nakasone gasps for air at the end of his 50-meter swim qual race in which he finished third with a time of 1:01.



"The Green Mile" - 3:15 p.m.,
6:35 p.m., (Sat. only) 9:55 p.m.

Local



Medical Clinic Health Promotions Tobacco Cessation Courses

Tobacco Cessation classes will be held today, April 12, 14, 19, 21, May 17, 19, 24, 26, June 14, 16, 21 and 23. Courses are held in the clinic conference room, 10-11 a.m. Participants must attend all four sessions. For more information call 253-3266.

Controlling Cholesterol Course

A "Controlling Cholesterol Course" will be offered April 27, May 25 and June 22, 10-11 a.m. in the Branch Medical Clinic conference room. This class will help participants understand what cholesterol is, how to reduce it and the importance of good nutrition and regular exercise. For more information call 253-3266.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous open meetings are held Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays and Sundays, 7 p.m. Closed meetings are held each Monday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday at 7 p.m. All meetings are held in Bldg. 497, second floor. For more information call 43-4814.

New Baby Playgroup

Parents and their babies up to 12 months are invited to enjoy a time to play, share and learn, Fridays, 10-11 a.m. in Bldg. 553 (M.C. Perry Elementary School), the E.D.I.S. playroom. Topics will include growth and development, play and exercise, feeding, adjustment to parenthood and more. Child care vouchers are available for siblings. For more information call 253-4562.

E.D.I.S.

Education and Developmental Intervention Services, a division of the Branch Medical Clinic, offers an Early Intervention program for children up to 36 months.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's speech, social, cognitive or motor development call 253-4562 to set up a free screening or evaluation. Information is also available on such topics as child development, parenting issues and behavior management.

Interagency Coordinating Council

The Interagency Coordinating Council meets quarterly here to facilitate education, communication and collaboration of programs available that serve young children under five with special needs and their families.

For more information or if you are a parent interested in participating call Sylvia Hollenback at 253-4562.

Consignment Shop

Spring has sprung at the Consignment Shop, located on the second floor of Crossroads Mall. It has T-shirts,

shorts and other summer apparel. The Consignment Shop opens Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. It accepts consignments and donations during business hours or after hours.

Motorcycle Instructor Course

Station Safety will be sponsoring a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Instructor Certification Course at a date to be determined. Successful completion of the course enables the participant to instruct MSF courses. Interested individuals should have a minimum of two years left on station, be an experienced motorcycle rider, and be able to attend a two week course in Iwakuni. Information packets can be obtained from Station Safety, Bldg. 757.

MOPS

Mothers of newborns to age 5 are encouraged to attend Mothers of Preschoolers, International. There are structured playtime/classroom activities for children as well as crafts and speakers for mothers. The MOPS meet every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Chapel Annex during the M.C. Perry school year. Anytime M.C. Perry school is not in session, MOPS will not meet. For more information call Pam White at 253-2465.

Kids Fest 2000

Kids Fest 2000 will be held April 8, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the MAC Dome. The event needs volunteers to help with games, giving out prizes, greeters, set-up and break down, etc. For more information or to sign up call 253-2415.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides interest-free loans or grants for Navy and Marine Corps members and their families to meet their immediate, emergency needs. Navy Relief can assist with emergency travel, basic living expenses, personal needs when pay is delayed, and essential vehicle repairs.

They also offer budget counseling, spouse tuition aid and layette packages for newborns. Navy Relief cannot pay for vacations, non-essentials, telephone bills and fines/legal expenses. A budget will be prepared at your appointment. You must bring a current LES and verification of assistance needed. Assistance is from donated dollars and based on need.

For more information call 253-5311. The office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and is now located in Bldg. 360, Rm. 35. Appointments requested, walk-ins welcome.

Marine Corps Community Services OSC/MCCS Bazaar

The Spring Bazaar takes place in the MAC Dome Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vendors from throughout the Pacific Rim will sell their

goods, and private organizations will sell food and beverages. For parking information see Page D.

Teen Center Registration

Teens are reminded that they must re-register as a Teen Center member by April 30. For additional information call 253-6454.

Child Care Orientation

Individuals wishing to provide child care in their home should plan to attend an orientation session April 17-19, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in Child Development Center Building 636. Various benefits are available, including college credit toward an associate degree in Child Development. For more information call 253-6553.

Baby Boot Camp

The Marine New Parent Support Program will hold Baby Boot Camp Wednesday, April 12, 19 and 26, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Community Services Building, Rm. 127. For more information call 253-6553.

CRMC Hours

The Career Resource Management Center opens Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Wednesday until 6 p.m. They are closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays. For more information call 253-6439.

Employment Workshop

The Career Resource Management Center will hold a workshop Wednesday, 9-10:30 a.m. to explain Iwakuni's local and federal job market and the application processes. Learn how to complete the SF-171, OF 612 and KSA forms with computer programs. The class will be held in the Community Services Building, Rm. 216.

Resume Workshop

The Career Resource Management Center will hold a basic resume workshop in the Community Services Building, Rm. 216 Thursday, 9-10:30 a.m. All job seekers interested in identifying skills, training and experiences that translate into marketable job qualifications are welcome. For more information call 253-6439.

Keeping Children Safe Contest

Seventh- through 12th-graders may enter a rap video contest with the theme "Keeping children safe at home and in the community." For entry information call 253-3737.

70's Dance

Northern Star Chapter 51 will hold a 70's Dance April 22, at 7 p.m. at Club Iwakuni. The event includes a 70's best dress contest, name that tune, prize giveaways and much more. There is a fee. For more information call 253-2127/2647.

Education



Test Schedule

Every Tuesday/Friday
- College Level Examination Program

Chapel's Weekly Services

Divine Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass (M.C. Perry Elementary School Gym)
Sunday 9 a.m. Mass (M.C. Perry Elementary School Gym)

Protestant

Saturday 5:30 p.m. Protestant Liturgical Service (Chapel Annex)
Sunday 10 a.m. Church of Christ (Chapel Annex)
10:30 a.m. General Protestant Service (M.C. Perry Elementary School Gym)
12 p.m. Gospel Service (M.C. Perry Elementary School Gym)

Latter Day Saints

Sunday 12:30 p.m. Latter Day Saints (Chapel Annex)

Jewish

Friday 6 p.m. Jewish Shabat (Chapel Annex)

Call 253-5218 for more information.

For information on Jewish Services call Mark Zeid at 082-231-4008 after 6 p.m. or call the Station Chapel.

- DANTES Subject Standardized Test

March 27 - Electronics Data Processing Test

All tests begin at 8 a.m. at the Education Service Office, located at Bldg. 411, Rm. 101. There is a fee for civilian personnel but not for military personnel. Call 253-3855 for more information.

Tuition Assistance

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is offering tuition assistance for Term V at Troy State University, University of Maryland and Central Texas College to spouses of Navy and Marine Corps personnel. Amounts up to \$300 are available for undergraduate study and up to \$350 for graduate work. Tuition aid is granted one term at a time and is based on need. Applications are accepted through April 21.

Paperwork and interview must be completed by April 21. Stop by the Education Office or the Navy Relief Office to pick up spouse tuition packet. Bring LES, identification card and completed paperwork to interview. Call 253-5311 for an appointment.

Childbirth Education Program

Five-week Series

A five-week series class is offered to first-time expecting parents during the third trimester who are interested in learning the basics about childbirth. The class meets once a week for five weeks from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

For more information call Cmdr. Lisa Craft at 253-2714.

Refresher Class

The Refresher Class is offered to mothers who want to "freshen up" on the skills covered in the five-week series. This class, offered once a month, covers such issues as delivery at a Japanese facility, labor and delivery and breathing techniques. For more information call 253-2714.